

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

**Pierre GIRARD et al**

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January 20, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUBMISSION PURSUANT TO RULE 114**

Sir:

This paper is being filed as a submission pursuant to 37 CFR §114(c) as it is further responsive to the "final" Official Action dated June 4, 2003 and provides new arguments and/or evidence in support of patentability of the presently claimed invention. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is therefore solicited.

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.121, each section of the subject Amendment (e.g., Claim Amendments, Specification Amendments, Drawing Amendments and Remarks) as may be appropriate to the issues raised in the Official Action to which this paper responds, begins on a separate page. Changes to the original text, claims and the like are shown by striking through language to be deleted and underlining of language to be added.